

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An electric power steering apparatus comprising:
 - a steering system;
 - an electric motor ~~for~~ producing steering assist torque corresponding to steering torque applied to said steering system; and
 - a worm gear mechanism ~~for~~ transmitting the steering assist torque to said steering system, wherein said worm gear mechanism includes a worm operatively connected to said electric motor and a worm wheel operatively connected to said steering system and meshing with said worm, and said worm has a pressure angle greater than a pressure angle of said worm wheel.
2. (Currently amended) An electric power steering apparatus comprising:
 - a steering system including a rack and pinion assembly;
 - an electric motor ~~for~~ producing steering assist torque corresponding to steering torque applied to said steering system; and
 - a worm gear mechanism ~~for~~ transmitting the steering assist torque to said steering system, wherein said worm gear mechanism includes a worm operatively connected to said electric motor and a worm wheel operatively connected to said steering system and meshing with said worm, and said worm is a single-thread worm.
3. (Original) An electric power steering apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said worm is made of metal while said worm wheel is made of resin, and wherein said worm wheel has a tooth thickness greater than a tooth height.
4. (Original) An electric power steering apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said worm has a pressure angle greater than a pressure angle of said worm wheel.